

Lambeth LGBT Forum Meeting

Tuesday 15 November

Present

Min Rodriguez
Graham Alldus (Lambeth Met LGBT Liaison Officer)
Stephen Chumbley
Philip Inblesant
Tom Hanworth
John Roberts
Billie Ferrie
Katy Shaw

Rose Donovan
Yvonne Stewart-Williams
Chris de Souza (Lambeth Council Community Safety Manager)
Barbara Goodchild
Eileen Dixon
David Farrington
Amy Donovan (Lambeth LGBT Anti-Hate Crime Coordinator)

Apologies

Robert Brown
Thierry Muller
Tim Chambers
Gerald Gohler
Fraser Serle
Gary Whiting
Paul McCann
Danny Fitzgerald

Discussion

Developing Positive Statutory Responses to Public Sexual Activity and Public Sex Environments

This meeting was chaired by Chris D'Souza.

The purpose of the discussion was to provide the LGBT population with the opportunity to contribute ideas into the new borough-wide strategy on PSE's. Such a partnership is critical to positively addressing the issues affecting areas such as Clapham and Streatham Common.

Some of the key issues highlighted include:

- The importance of acknowledging the points of distinction between sex in public spaces and sex in public toilets.
- Is lighting adequate in these areas?
- What by way of bins are provided?
- What is being done to redesign public toilets so that they are less likely to be the locations of public sexual activity?
- Men partaking in such behaviour may not identify as LGBT, therefore making it difficult to target health promotion messages towards.

- The importance of promoting the Lambeth Strategy across-borough as it will be a formative piece of best practice.

Jodi Dobrowski Murder Update

Graham Allodus, the Met. LGBT Liaison Officer reported that Jodi's movements on the night of his murder have so far not linked him to being involved in the PSE on Clapham Common. However, Graham was quick to highlight that this detail does not make a difference in regards to either the serious nature of the issue or the Police response. Two men are currently in custody relating to Jodi's murder.

Graham will report any developments in this case or the trial of David Morley's death to future forum meetings.

Meeting

LGBT History Month update

AD provided a very quick overview of the progress that has been made in relation to LGBT History Month. The minutes from the last LGBT History Month meeting are attached and include an outline of what events have been confirmed and what is in the pipelines for the month.

Response from the Council re: RVT

The Council has sent the Forum a response regarding the sale of the RVT. To summarise, the Council commented that, "...The Council did not consult LGBT as the property was being sold as an investment. The Council did not intend to change the use of the property. Any proposal to change the use will require planning permission and public consultation".

The letter highlights planning as being an issue, particularly in areas such as Vauxhall which is increasingly attracting LGBT specific businesses. Perhaps the Forum may wish to have Environment attend a Forum meeting to discuss how it intends to manage, balance and include the interests of the LGBT business community who have been integral in the regeneration of the area.

Can people please send me their thoughts and I will make the necessary arrangements to organise a meeting or obtain information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Linking Up London Conference update

Amy, Danny, Rose, Tom H. and Min attended the Linking up London Conference which was held on the 29 October.

Some of the key issues that were highlighted by those in attendance, include:

- The lack of lobbying for LGBT Forums at the strategic level
- The role of our forum in relation to lobbying for change at a strategic level
- The lack of tangible commitment by the Local Government Authority (LGA) and the Greater London Authority (GLA) to promoting LGBT issues within local authorities
- The need for funding for our Forum

Actions

GA to confirm a venue for the end of year Forum Party

AD to apply for funds on behalf of the Forum for running costs such as advertising of the forum and meeting expenses

AD to establish meeting times/dates and suitable meeting rooms for 2006 (this includes having hearing loops available at every meeting)

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the **Forum's Party** 7pm, 14th December @ The Two Brewers, 114 Clapham High St, Clapham. This is a great opportunity to socialise and to celebrate our achievements for this year! I hope to see you all there.